

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested in view of the above amendment and the discussion below.

Claims 1-3 (presumably 1-2), 5, 6, 12, 13, 16, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by or obvious over 35 U.S.C. 103 over the reference to Tsai U.S. Patent No. 5,420,946. Claims 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as unpatentable over Tsai and further in view of Gillich U.S. Patent No. 6,310,737. Claims 24 and 26-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as unpatentable over Tsai and Honeywell with claim 30 being rejected over Tsai, Honeywell and Gillich.

Allowable subject matter has been indicated at claims 3, 14-15, 17-19, 21-22 and 25.

The above Amendment incorporates allowable subject matter from each of claims 3, 14-15, 17-19, 21-22 and 25 into independent format with all of the limitations of a base claim and the intervening claims.

Additionally Applicants have amended claims 6, 14, 21 and 28 and placed the deleted subject matter in new dependent claims 32-35 which each depend from claims 6, 14, 21 and 28 respectively. No new matter is raised by these changes as each of these claims depend from and contain all of the limitations of independent allowable claims, in light of the remaining amendments discussed above.

Item 3 of the Patent Office Action indicated that the proposed drawing corrections had been approved but that proper drawing corrections needed to be made. Applicants submit that the drawings submitted with the Amendment of July 21, 2003 contained five sheets of formal drawings with the approved changes and thus there are no outstanding requirements.

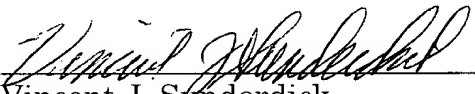
Therefore in view of the amendments to the claim structure to take advantage of indicated allowable subject matter, Applicants respectfully request that this application be allowed and be passed to issue.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #080313.48982US).

Respectfully submitted,

December 15, 2003



Vincent J. Sunderdick
Registration No. 29,004

CROWELL & MORING, LLP
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844

VJS/adb

Document#288846